An Autobiography
A

A PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALL CLUB



HARTFORD CHARTER OAKS FOOTBALL CLUB



THE OAKS

Left to right ► TOP ROW: Joe Bucci, Jerry Johnson, John Henry, Bob White, Bob Pierce, Herb Sutton, Ed Waters, Bob Barrows, Steve Zisk, Jim Parker.

- SECOND ROW: Tom Alteri, trainer; Phil Kearney, Bill Boehle, Tom Brown, Bill Lesinski, Gene Gollareny, John Geraghty, Don Faucher, Allan Freheit, Fred Wallner, coach.
- ► THIRD ROW: Billy Brewer, water boy; Roger Millici, Maurice Sykes, Frank Beck, Al Dennis, Ron Platt, Bob Shemeth, Nick DeFelice, Ernie Colquette; John Usakiewicz, George Washington, Frank Toro, assistant coach.
- ► FRONT ROW: Frank DeGregorio, assistant coach; Perry D'Angelis, assistant trainer; Jim White, Jim Moss, Tom Calabrese, Ken Luciani, Tony Malizia, Mark Perry, Howard Murphy, Leonard Markese, equipment. Missing from photo are John Gracek, Wayne Krueger and Geoge Stratts.



THE OWNERS

WILLIAM F. BREWER, President
DONALD A. BREWER, General Manager
EDWARD D. BREWER
RAYMOND P. BREWER
WILLIAM F. BREWER, JR.

OFFICES: 64 PEARL STREET, HARTFORD, CONN. PHONE: 525-1117

A Professional Football Team

is in some respects like a man in that its existence is determined over a period of years by the people around and within it.

Its growth is measurable and its dependence on others is in constant evidence. The following pages, we feel, bear these points out while telling the story of the Hartford Charter Oaks.

This is a story of many men and many things but most of all it is a story of community action. Not many men can claim, with as much justification, a pride in their community as can the resident of Metropolitan Hartford.

We members of the Oaks are proud of our association with this great city and are confident that the reader will readily appreciate our feelings.

BILL BREWER AND SONS

AN IDEA...

Bond Issue For Lights Spurs Pro Bid

That was Don Brewer's reaction to the report that City Council members Thomas Corrigan and Betty Knox sponsored a bond issue resolution at Monday night's meeting to install lights at Dillon Field.

Brewer and his brother Ned hope to ob-Coast Council Hearing. Set on Feb. 17

proposed ordinance asking for a \$100,000 bond issue to provide lighting at Dillon Stadium was introduced at Monday night's

City Council meeting.

The Council set Feb. 17
as the date for a public proposal

Hartford Seeking Franchise in ACFL

By A. B. McGINLEY

Hartford is seeking a fran-chise in the Atlantic Coast Pro-Football League, the profession-al football circuit that operates on the Atlantic seaboard, Springfald one of its sities

Springfield one of its cities.

Donald Brewer of West Hartford has made formal applica-tion to the ACFL for a fran-chise, and Saturday will present his case to President Joseph Rosentover and the league directors at a meeting in Spring-

This meeting will be held in This meeting will be held in late afternoon; President Rosentover and the other league officials will be in Springfield for the championship game between the Springfield Acorns, winners in the Northern Division, and the Newark Bears, winners in the Southern Division.

NO NEW FRANCHISE can be granted by the Atlantic Coast here become a fact, William



DON BREWER

IS BORN

Hartford Gets Pro Grid Franchise

NEW YORK (Special) — play Saturday night games, with the possibility of scheduling some Friday night contests. A resolution proposing a bond issue of \$100,000 for lights was made by Don and Ed Brewer of West Hartford at the league's annual meeting, was quickly granted without dissent.

The Hartford franchise is predicted on action by the City Tomas J. Corrigan. However, the many proposing a lighting to the service of the content of the c

AND IT GROWS .

With Malice Toward



AT LEAST, IT'S OFF THE GROUND

The stirring of the long sleeping city became even more noticeable when two brave young men named Don and Ned

Brewer, representing them-selves and their father, walked into the annual meeting of the Atlantic Coast Football League last Sunday in New York and emerged with a

Hartford franchise in their possession.

Now the Hartford team

has a name, a name steeped in the history and tradition of



ARTHUR LUMSDEN

Hartford. It will be called the Charter Oaks. Getting a coaching staff and player personnel are the next steps, but Hartford and the Brewer fam-ily are at least off the ground this respect.

The name was selected by a committee meeting yester-day with Arthur J. Lumsden, executive vice-president of the Greater Hartford Chamber of Commerce in that group's handsome Constitution Plaza

Hartford Charter Oaks New Name Given to Local ACFL Pro Entry



ment to mankind. This leader-ship medal is presented in de-dication to the cause of free dom, liberty and leadership." The Mayor's committee, be-sides Mr. Lumsden and Mr. Sloan, included Councilman Thomas H. Corrigan, Harold Ogden, Hartford Times sports columnist; Bill Lee, sports edi-tor of The Courant; broadcast-ers Bob Steele and Jack Com-ley and Ned and Don Brewer.

Fred Wallner to Coach Hartford Eleven

Ex-Irish Star Named Coach

Wallner Choice Of Charter Oaks

Leahy, Fred Wallner, named last night to coach the Charter Oaks, is quite a guy.

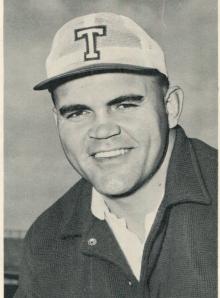
Actually the Brewer family, father and sons Don and Ned the owners of Hartford's entry, in the Atlantic Coast League haven't even met the about to be ex-Tulane coach as yet. He will fly in here Monday for a press conference at the Shoreham Oaks. After a luncheon he will get the customary going over, nicely that is, by assembled press, radio and TV casters.

After that, Wallner returns to New Orleans to finish out his assignements at Tulane where he has been line coach.

WHILE ADMITTING that the Charter Oaks by his brother they haven't yet had a charce carl, a state of Connecticut lates to sit down andtalk with their brown on the properties of the charter Oaks by his brother they haven't yet had a charce carl, a state of Connecticut lates they have a properties of the Charter Oaks by his brother they haven't yet had a charce Carl, a state of Connecticut lates they have a properties of the Charter Oaks by his brother they haven't yet had a charce Carl, a state of Connecticut lates they have they have a properties of the Charter Oaks by his brother they have a properties of the Charter Oaks by his brother they have a properties of the Charter Oaks by his brother they have a properties of the Charter Oaks by his brother they have a properties of the Charter Oaks by his brother they have a properties of the Charter Oaks by his brother they have a properties of the Charter Oaks by his brother they have a properties of the Charter Oaks by his brother they have a properties of the Charter Oaks by his brother they have a properties of the Charter Oaks by his brother they have a properties of the Charter Oaks by his brother they have a properties of the Charter Oaks by his brother they have a properties of the Charter Oaks by his brother they have a properties of the Charter Oaks by his brother they have a properties of the Charter Oaks by his brother they have a properties of the Charter Oaks by his brother they have a properties of the Ch

If he can coach like he played for Notre Dame and teach as Monday, and will begin imhe was taught himself, by Frank mediately selecting a squad. Leahy, Fred Wallner, named last night to coach the Charter Oaks, is quite a guy.

Actually the Brave family.



FRED WALLNER

Ex-Notre Dame Lineman Will Guide Charter Oaks

By MIKE CARUSO

The Hartford Charter Oaks, practice. latest members of the Atlantic Coast Professional Football Leahas been Coast Professional rootoan cearge, on have a head coach.
Don Brewer, the Oaks general manager, announced the appointment of Fred W. Wallner to the new post Wednesday de by Notre Dame football fans.

the Green Wave through spring

The Oaks picked a man whe has been associated with footbal

might.

Wallner, presently line coach
at Tulane University, will assume his local duties in May.

Until then, he will remain with
teams that accumulated 19 wins and a tie over a twoyear span. He finished his col lege career with the 1950 elever that won four, lost four and played a tie in nine games. Frank Leahy coached the South Bend clubs during that era. Made NFL All-Pro

Wallner's tenacious line earned him a spot on th

Fans' Reaction Swift to New Football Team

Callers Seek Information

Locals' Staff Busy With Ticket Queries

By MIKE CARUSO

Courant Sports Writer
Personnel at the Hartford
Charter Oaks downtown office were extremely busy all day Monday answering callers on the telephone and in person who were requesting season and game tickets.

game tickets.

There is no doubt that the big crowd's enthusiasm at last Saturday's exhibition game, in which the Oaks wound up on the short end of a 14-11 decision against the Springfield Acorns, has stirred wide inter-

The Hartford Courant switchoard was buzzing constantly rom new-found fans who called to make inquiry regarding game dates, ticket prices and locations where tickets could be obtained. Ducats are priced \$2. for general admission, \$3.00

reserved seats, and \$18.00 the season. kets may be purchased at ks office, 64 Pearl Street, between 8:00a.m. and at the Oaks' work-

Park, Tuesday,

They Want Football

millon Stadium "

night have been the aftermath of the Charter Oaks' debut again 7.622 fans (Courant

Oaks Open At Portland

Road Game Saturday First League Action

problem that has been vexing Brewer is locating jobs locally for players who sign with the Hartford team.

Meanwhile, station WPOP (1410) is planning to broadcast the Oaks' home and away games. The Springfield Acorns who open at home with th powerful Newark Bears Saturday night, have their garden day night, have their gatues broadcast over station WTXL (1490) and will have delayed telecasts over Channel 22 of away games with Boston (Sept. 19) and Providence (Oct. 12). The Providence home and away games are broadcast over WWRI (1450) and negotiations are under way with Channel 12 for television.

At Fairfield where the Giants

held press-photographers day in presence of the writer, Giants' vice-president Wellington Mara told Brewer that there were no plans for reducing the roster this week because of the numer-ous minor injuries incurred a result of New York's tion game against

NOURISHED BY . . THE LIKES OF THIS .

Oaks Triumph



Hartford Captures Opener at Portland In ACL Before 5,800

Courant Sports Writer
PORTLAND, Me. —The Hart-

yards around his left side for the score with two minutes and

Courant Sports Writer
PORTLAND, Me. —The Hartford Charter Oaks made their
debut in the Atlantic Coast Football League a successful one
Saturday night at Portland High
School Stadium by grinding out
a 27-21 victory over the Portland Sea Hawks.
It was the first league football game played by a professional Hartford team since 1926,
The victory, achieved by Coach
Fred Wallner's new entry in
the loop, set up the Oaks for
their first home appearance in
ACFL action next week against
Providence. They pinned a secHawks, who were playing their
ond straight setback on the Sea
home opener.
Fullback Maurice Sykes,
a 6-2 225-pounder who hails from
New Haven and played at Hillhouse High, scored two of the
touchdowns f or the Charter
Oaks, while quarterback Jerry
Johnson and halfback Chick
Henry tallied the other weeks
All of the **Contect*
Malizia took the kickoff
over leaf to seconds remaining until
the score with two minutes and
eight seconds remaining until
the slore with two minutes and
eight seconds remaining until
the half.
The Sea Hawks, however, if
Subaks at John Sea Hawks, however, if
Sea Hawks, howe

AND THIS

Charter Oaks Upset Providence

Courant Sports Writer
Hartford's amazing Charter
Oaks rewarded 8,200 wildly cheering fans with a tremen-dous 38-21 upset victory over the previously unbeaten Providence Steamrollers at Dillon Stadium

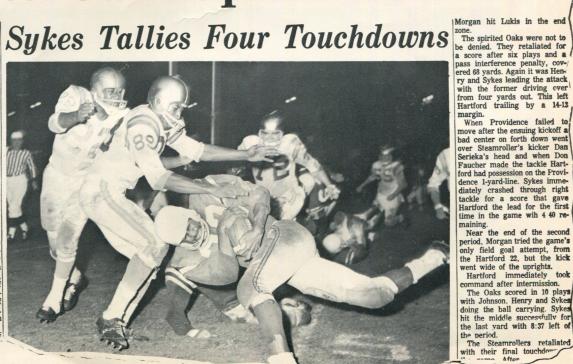
Saturday night.

The Oaks scored their second win in as many starts in their Atlantic Coast Football League Atlantic Coast rootsal League home debut, playing under an excellent lighting system, ex-hibited for the first time. The triumph put Hartford atop the Northern Division of the league. Fullback Maurice Sykes, half-

Fullback Maurice Sykes, nat-lack Chick Henry and quarter-back Jerry Johnson highlighted the victory as the Oaks proved once again to be the better club in the second half. Coach Fred Wallner's well-conditioned crew hit harder and appeared fresher

then their rivals at the 'inish. Hartford took the lead in the second period and newer relin-quished it. Sykes bulled his way quished it. Sykes bulled his way over for scores on four occasions from the one-yard line or less, while Henry tallied on runs of four and 30 yards. Allan Freiheit was successful on three of his six conversion attempts. There is no two-point option in the ACFL

Providence scored in each of



margin.

When Providence failed to move after the ensuing kickoff a bad center on forth down went over Steamroller's kicker Dan Serieka's head and when Don Faucher made the tackle Hartraucher made the tacker hart-ford had possession on the Provi-dence 1-yard-line. Sykes imme-diately crashed through right tackle for a score that gave Hartford the lead for the first time in the game wih 4 40 remaining.

Near the end of the second Near the end of the second period, Morgan tried the game's only field goal attempt, from the Hartford 22, but the kick went wide of the uprights.

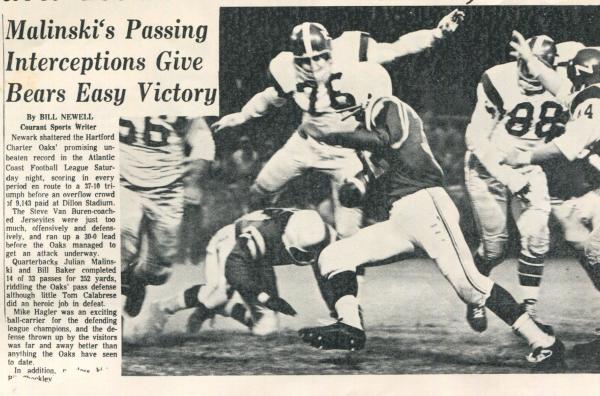
Hartford immediately took command after intermission.

The Oaks scored in 10 plays with Johnson. Henry and Sykes doing the ball carrying. Sykes hit the middle successfully for the last yard with 8:37 left of

The Steamrollers retaliated with their final touchdon

AND EVEN THIS

Newark Routs Charter Oaks, 37-10

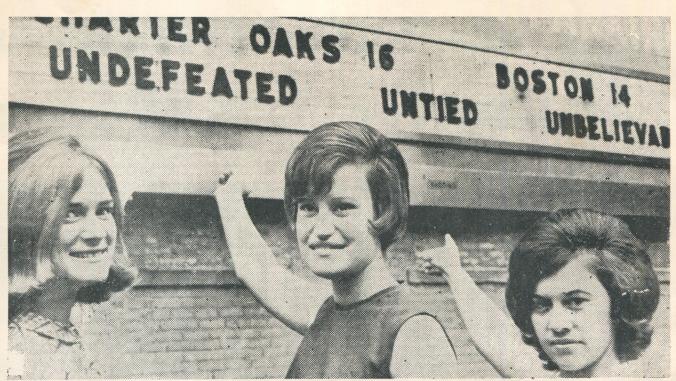


BUT MOST OF ALL...



ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We wish to express our sincere gratitude to the Hartford Newspapers for granting us permission to reprint in this booklet these outstanding articles and action pictures.



EYEING SIGN EXTOLLING Charter Oak football team are (from left) Diane Dondero of Winsted, Trieste DeBelles of

Hazleton, Pa., and Beverly Curry, also of Hazleton. Sign is at parking lot at Pearl and Trumbull Sts .- [Times photo

4 Good Sign!

aks Get Enthusiastic Backing

By A. B. M'GINLEY

The amazing Charter Oaks -(thargv

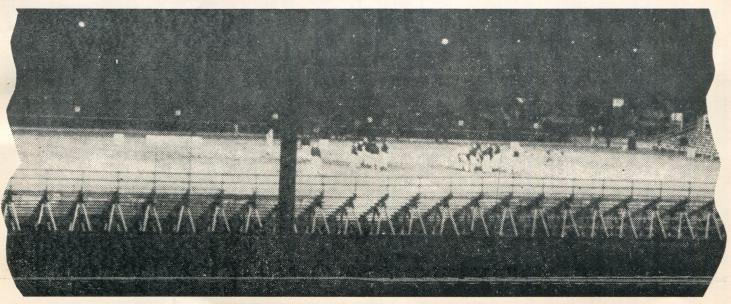
to lead the parade.

tribute to orts en- ball

lantic Coast League victories team by the business commu-on Atlantic Coast League gridnity is a healthy sign and irons a sign of a spectato brings to mind the massive sup-sports renaissance here, a mazing both at the box office may long years at the Hartford for many years, gave the proper to have roused Greater artford fans from the long to bring to mind the massive supports Tenanssance field, port Atlanta business houses, oasis in the Sports Sahara.

Deuces wild and post office many years, gave the property of the property o

Deuces wild and post offic



UNDER LIGHTS-Only the arc lights pierce the chilly night as Hartford Charter Oaks work out in empty Dillon Stadium in preparation for Saturday's league test.

AND FOR 1965 THIS .

Charter Oaks Join Continental League Oaks Vow Top Football Setup

New CFL Begins Action Aug. 14

Not to compete with the National and American Leagues; "but to be a step above everyone else," today was the firm declaration of the new 10-team Continental League as it bolted into the big-time football picture. of the hottest clubs in the North

In Hartford, where its Char-ter Oaks became members of the new league's Western Division along with Providence, Fort Wayne, Richmond and Charles-ton, W. Va., machinery was al-ready hard at work "to assure the finest professional football available.

"Like everyone else in the league," said General Mana-ger Don Brewer, who was named to the CFL's executive committee at the organizational meetings in New York over the weekend, "we will go after the best talent around."

will go after the best talent around."

Anticipated additional seating at Dillon Stadium, a possible major network television contract. lifting of salary limits and an elaborate player draft were all cited as key points to be ironed out by Brewer; who was back in Hartford today, "getting down to the serious business of running a football team. "We hope our season ticket sales reach at least 4,000, or double of what we had last year," he said. "With the new semi-portable bleachers on the East Side, the total seating will be well over 10,000. For now," he added, "it should be enough. It may not do in a year or two."

** **

Brewer said he expects no problem writing a new contract for the club's number one quarterback, Mike Mosolf, who is the lone Hartford member hold.

Brewer, who was in New and the depth of the continental Baseball League formed by Branch Rickey. It was supposed to become the enird major league until it was disbanded when the two existing leagues expanded.

Brewer, who was in New March March 18 and provision for all league games.

Charleston, Wheeling and Fort Wayne held franchises in the now defunct United Football League. Philadelphia takes over the Canton franchise and Toronto replaces Monteal of the UFL.

The CFL team out of Providence is owned by a new organization as the Stemrollers chose to remain in the AGFL.

The name for the new league, the continuation of the provision for all league games.

Charleston, Wheeling an department of the now identify the new death provision for all league games.

Charleston, Wheeling and the provision for all league games.

Charleston, Wheeling and the provision for all league games.

Charleston, Wheeling and the provision for all league games.

Charleston, Wheeling and the provision for all league games.

Charleston, Wheeling and the continuation of a sudden death provision for all league games.

Charleston, Wheeling and the provision for all league games.

Charleston, Wheeling and the continuation of the provision for all league games.

Charleston, Wheel

terback, Mike Mosolf, who is the lone Hartford member hold-ing a signed Atlantic Coast

League pact.

The ACFL, which said it will continue to operate with eight teams, indicated in New York it will pool the contracts of the players on the "banished teams" and hold its own common draft. mon draft.

There was no indication here today that any of the Hartford players would choose to jump the Oaks in favor of remaining in the ACFL.

of the hottest clubs in the Northern Division at the end of the season after ex-Cleveland Brown quarterback Tom O'Connell took over the coaching reigns, will be playing in the Western Division of the Continental League with Philadelphia, Newark, Toronto and Wabeling. and Wheeling.

Among the details ironed out in the New York meetins was the creation of a 36-man player limit with provisions for a

er limit with provisions for a five-man taxi squd.

The league also voted to seek a meeting with commissioners of the NFL, Pete Rozzelle, and Joe Foss of AFL.

A major point concerning rules was the adoption of a sudden death provision for all league games.

Brewer, who was in New York with brother Ned, the vicepresident of the corporation owning the Oaks, said at least one — and possibly two — exhibition games will precede the regular 11-g am e schedule that begins on Aug. 14 and ends Nov. 13.

The schedule, TV, player salaries and other points will be ironed out when the league meets again this or next week-

remaining in the ACFL.
Providence, with a team both in the ACFL and CFL, emerged as the lone city with two clubs. Others in the ACFL are Jersey City, Portland, New Bedford, Harrisburg, Scranton, Pittsburgh and Mohawk Valley of Herkimer, N. Y.

The continuation of the Hartford-Springfield rivalry was assured although the Acorns, one



MINOR LEAGUE PRO FOOTBALL EXECUTIVES MEET: A United Football League officials pose at the Americana Hotel in New York City where they met in hopes of forming a new professional football league. From left: James—Dun, Springfield, Mass.; Don Brewer, Hartford; Leonard Mercer, Philadelphia, and Joe Ovies of Wheeling, W. Va.

Local Team Member of Major Loop

Ten Teams Form **Grid Circuit**

By BILL NEWELL Courant Sports Writer

A third major professional football league was born in New York City Sunday and Hart-ford's Charter Oaks are in it. The Continental Professional

Football League, made up of 10 teams, will commence operations next August.

tions next August.

The league will have two divisions. The Western Division will consist of Richmond, Va., Charleston, W. Va., Hartford, Providence and Fort Wayne, Ind. The Eastern Division will be made up of Philadelphia, Springfield, Mass., Newark, Toronto and Wheeling, W. Va. Don Brewer, general manager of the Charter Oaks, was

er of the Charter Oaks, was named to the new league's executive committee, along with

Alex Schoenbaum of Charleston, Sol Rosen of Newark and Al Savill of Fort Wayne. Best of Both

Brewer reported from New York Sunday night that the new circuit will be made up of the strongest teams in the former United League and the Atlantic Coast League, of which Hartford was a member last season.

Newark, Richmond, Spring-field and Hartford dropped out field and Hartford dropped out of the Atlantic Coast circuit Saturday, leaving that league with eight teams for next year. Two other ACFL teams, West-chester and Atlanta, were dropped by the league for failing to meet obligations.

In the Continental setup, Canton, Ohio, the champion of the United League last fall, has transferred its franchise to Philadelphia. Toronto, which replaces Montreal, and Fort Wayne, which replaces Indianapolis, were formerly UFL af-

Brewer said that the Continental League will play a 14-game schedule starting the week of Aug. 14 and running consecutively through Nov. 13.

Another Meeting Set

He said that the executive
committee had received fran-

chise requests from six other cities while it was meeting in New York.

The membership of the new circuit will act on these requests and any additional ones

quests and any additional ones at the next meeting, scheduled Feb. 27 - 28 in New York.

Brewer said the new league voted to adopt a constitution patterned after the National Football League and the American Football League.

Officials of the new loop intended the part of the Revalle.

Officials of the new loop in-tend to meet with Pete Rozelle, NFL commissioner, and Joe Foss, AFL commissioner, with-in the next few weeks. They expect such discussions will lead to suggestions as to how the new circuit can best serve the interests of pro football.

Player Lmiit at 36
The Continental League set a player limit at 36, with provisions for each club to maintain a five-man taxi squad.
One of the first duties of the

newly-appointed executive committee is to screen candidates for the position of commission-

In the meantime, the Atlantic Coast League, which suspended the five teams which joined the new circuit, announced that players from these clubs will be drafted under a provision that all player contracts revert

FROM THESE MEN THE OAKS HAVE GROWN

O'MAHONEY, JIM · Age 23 Height 6' Weight 235 Linebacker

Hometown, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, where he was guard-linebacker at Central Catholic and Schenley Highs . . . all-state scholastically . . . played three years at Miami University, Florida, and made honorable mention All-American . . . eighth draft choice of Minnesota Vikings (NFL) in 1963 and was last cut in 1963 and 1964 . . . vicious tackler with unquenchable drive.





BOWMAN, DICK · Age 22 Height 6' 3" Weight 245 Defensive End

Canton, Ohio, native . . . played scholastic football at Lehman High . . . co-captain at Syracuse where he was two-way end . . . on Orange squad that beat Miami (Florida) 15-14 in Liberty Bowl . . . played in Hula Bowl in Hawaii last season . . . leading pass receiver for Syracuse . . . steady performer . . .was all-American and sixth draft choice of St. Louis Cardinals (NFL) in 1964.



Six year veteran of pro ball . . . Meriden native where he was tremendous competitor in high school . . . also played at Monson Academy . . . gained little All-American honors at American International College in Springfield, Massachusetts . . . drafted by Detroit Lions (NFL) in 1958 . . . played with Buffalo Bills (AFL) for four years and was with Denver Broncos (AFL) this season . . . fine blocker in addition to pass-catching talent.





DEFELICE, NICK · Age 26 Height 6' 3" Weight 245 Tackle

Star at Derby High . . . captained Southern Connecticut State in 1961 . . . Little All-American for two years . . . all-pro in ACFL in 1962 and 1964 . . . teaches at private school . . . agile, strong and durable.

ORGEL, FRANK · Age 25 Height 6' 3" Weight 230 End-Linebacker

Excelled in football, basketball and swimming at Albany High in hometown of Albany, Georgia . . . graduated University of Georgia with BS degree in education . . . starred in Bulldogs' 14-10 win over Missouri in 1959 Orange Bowl . . . made All-Service team while stationed in Army . . . was with Fort Campbell, Kentucky team that downed Lackland AFB in Missile Bowl in 1962 and blanked Fort Bragg in 1963 Airborne Bowl . . . MVP in latter game . . . signed as free agent by Buffalo Bills (AFL) . . . reliable on both offense and defense.



AND ON . . .



FROM ALL THE OAKS

JULY 3, 1965
SEE YOU THEN !!!

CONTINENTAL PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE